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I.—The Diffusion of Cheap Literature in England.

MR. EDWARD BAINES, in addressing the House of Commons recently, stated some valuable and very gratifying facts as to the progress made of late years in the education of the people, and in the diffusion among them of a cheap but wholesome periodical literature.

The following extracts have been taken from Mr. Baines' speech:—*

“You will allow me, however, to bring before you two branches of evidence which are to my mind absolutely conclusive and irresistible on the subject. The first has reference to education, the second to our periodical and popular literature. * * * * In 1831 there were no statistics of education later than those obtained by Lord Brougham's Commission in 1818; and indeed it was the children of 1818 who were the men of 1831, and had to exercise the franchise. What was the proportion, according to these statistics, of the educated among the population? The whole number of day scholars in England and Wales was only 674,883, and the proportion to population was 1 in 17. It is true that after the Reform Bill passed there was another Royal Commission, which showed that the proportion at that time had very much increased, and in the year 1833 it was ascertained that the number of scholars had increased to 1,276,947, being in the proportion of 1 to 11 of the population. In the year 1858 it was found by the last Royal Commission on Education that the scholars amounted to 2,535,462, bearing the proportion of 1 in 7·7 to the population. And we learn from the Census of 1861 that the number of scholars (including, however, those receiving private tuition) was then 3,150,048, being in the proportion of 1 in 6·4. This shows England to have become one of the best educated countries in the world. Between 1833 and 1861 the population of England and Wales increased only 40 per cent., but the increase of day scholars was 147 per cent. * * * *

“But there is another branch of evidence which is still more important, and that is the amount of popular literature which is now distributed. There has been a marvellous spread of cheap literature, and the facts I shall lay before you will, I hope, induce those who

* 11th May, 1864.

were inclined to find a good deal of fault with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the President of the Board of Trade for advocating the repeal of the paper duty, to forgive those right honourable gentlemen for the part they took in that question. For the facts I am about to state I am indebted mainly to Mr. John Francis, the publisher of the *Athenæum*, who has obtained the assistance of Messrs. Mitchell, publishers of the *Newspaper Press Directory*, and of the principal publishers of periodical and serial literature in London. The newspaper circulation is given for the United Kingdom :—

Newspaper Circulation in 1831 and 1864.

1831.

Stamps Issued to Newspapers :

In England	32,000,000
„ Ireland.....	4,360,564
„ Scotland	2,287,750
Total for the United Kingdom	<u>38,648,314</u>

1864.

London Papers—

		Copies Issued in the Whole Year.
Daily (daily circulation)	248,000	87,776,000
Weekly (weekly circulation)....	2,263,200	<u>117,686,400</u>
Total circulation of London papers		<u>205,462,400</u>

Provincial Papers—

Daily (daily circulation).

In England (27 papers).....	263,000	
„ Wales (1 paper)	2,000	
„ Ireland (14 papers).....	96,000	
„ Scotland (9 „).....	77,000	
„ Jersey (1 paper)	1,000	
(52 papers).....	<u>439,000</u>	<u>137,407,000</u>

[In 1854 there were only 5 provincial daily papers, with an aggregate circulation of 10,000 copies per day.]

Weekly (961 papers).

(Weekly circulation)	3,907,500	<u>203,190,000</u>
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Total circulation of provincial papers....

340,597,000

Grand total in the United Kingdom

546,059,400

Or 1,313 per cent. more than in 1831.

“This is only as to political information, but there has happily sprung up a vast amount of most useful and interesting literature in the shape of magazines, periodicals, and serials, the increase of

which has been even more marvellous than the increase of the newspapers. I have here the monthly returns of the magazines and journals of a literary, scientific, and religious kind in London and some of the principal cities. * * * * I find that in London there are published monthly:—

Literary Periodicals and Serials in 1864.

Description.	Number of Publications.	Price.	Monthly Issue.
<i>Monthly—</i>			
Religious.....	84	$\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $5d.$	1,469,500
„ magazines	22	$\left. \begin{array}{c} 6d. \text{ and} \\ \text{upwards} \end{array} \right\}$	400,000
Temperance	20	$\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3d.$	793,250
Useful, educational, and entertaining ...	19	$1d.$ to $6d.$	338,500
Magazines and serials of a higher class	54	$1s.$ to $2s. 6d.$	244,850
Serials issued by great publishing firms, highly embellished and illustrated (<i>per number</i>)	—	$1s.$ to $3s. 6d.$	363,250
Total of monthly publications	—	—	3,609,350
			Weekly Issue.
<i>Weekly—</i>			
Religious	15	$1d.$ and $1\frac{1}{2}d.$	489,600
Useful, educational, and entertaining, including serial republications of standard works	32	$1d.$ to $3d.$	734,000
Journals, containing novels, tales, biographical sketches, &c.	13	$\frac{1}{2}d.$ and $1d.$	1,053,000
Romances, exciting wonder and horror	8	$1d.$	195,000
Immoral publications (three years ago 52,500)	—	$1d.$	9,000
Free-thinking, under.....	—	—	5,000
Total of weekly publications.....	—	—	2,485,600
Grand total of monthly and weekly publications.....	—	—	6,094,950

“The aggregate circulation of monthly magazines in 1831, as estimated by those best qualified to judge, did not exceed 125,000, whereas now it is *three millions*. I believe the sale of weekly magazines would not then be more than 125,000. There were serials published, which I believe may be taken at something like 120,000; and I should be far beyond the mark if I say that at that time there were 400,000 monthly and weekly copies of literary periodicals issued. The number now is 6,094,950, or *fifteen fold* the number in 1830! I am sure this result will be regarded as most gratifying, and I believe there are few who could have anticipated the possibility of such a change from sweeping away the taxes on knowledge, and throwing open, I may say, the flood-gates of knowledge to the people.”

II.—*The Criminal Statistics of Aberdeen for Twenty Years.*

FROM the *Aberdeen Herald* of the 21st May :—

“Some of the county gentlemen, in their discussion on the motion of Mr. Thomson of Banchory that the Prison Board be authorized to contribute to the funds of Oldmill Reformatory, raised the question whether the landward part of the county has specially benefitted by the establishment of this and kindred institutions; and Mr. Edmond, of Kingswells, also called attention to the circumstance that our prison expenditure, instead of diminishing, quite recently increased. Add to this the consideration that the number of criminals committed to prison has also increased—the total for 1863 being the greatest that has been reached for the past twenty years—and that the number of offences reported in the county during the past year was 50 per cent. greater than the number reported in 1856. Facts like these, on the first blush, seem to leave no room for escape from the conclusion that crime is sadly on the increase. But these statistical appearances on examination prove deceptive; and by way of aiding the public as well as the committee of county gentlemen who have been appointed by the Commissioners of Supply to take bearings and ascertain how the land really lies in this matter, we have prepared a series of tabular views, bringing out various aspects of the question that may have escaped the notice even of some who are familiar with the ordinary official reports.

“The following statement shows the apparent increase in the crime of the county :—

Number of Offences Reported in the County.

Year ending March		Year ending March	
1846	633	1856	664
'47	508	'57	734
'48	563	'58	810
'49	652	'59	1,026
'50	670	'60	1,102
1851	903		
'52	882	1861	981
'53	992	'62	1,184
'54	774	'63	1,034
'55	652	'64	997

“The offences reported during last year, it will be observed, were fewer than during the two preceding years, but still greater by one-half than several other years on the list—exceeding by nearly 100 per cent. the total for 1847; and over the whole series of years there is, generally speaking, an increase.

“But this increase has been in a very different ratio among the less and more hardened classes of criminals, as the following table indicates :—

Criminals Committed to Prison.

Year.	Total.	Average.	First, Second, and Third Time.	Average.	Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Time.	Average.
1843	742	735	621	594	86	92
'44	713		560		89	
'45	761		620		89	
'46	683		542		87	
'47	800		626		111	
1848	777	853	602	542	115	119
'49	1,011		743		175	
'50	943		713		128	
'51	800		648		98	
'52	734		603		78	
1853	810	814	673	619	93	107
'54	756		633		67	
'55	930		678		164	
'56	753		539		112	
'57	820		571		100	
1858	885	972	633	636	97	110
'59	910		611		120	
'60	785		522		93	
'61	—		No return		—	
'62	1,091		650		115	
'63	1,189		766		124	

"The last five years of the twenty show, it will be observed, an increase of nearly one-third in the total number of criminal prisoners as compared with the first five years. The year 1849 found that class of the population among whom breaches of the peace are most apt to arise in the condition in which the Rev. Mr. Shirra found the weavers of Path-head when he prayed publicly for them that they might have 'less wages or mair wit;' and but for the unusual number of such offences that year—as will be brought out by a subsequent table—the increase in the number of commitments would have been gradual on the five-yearly average over the whole twenty years. The total of 1862 was, it will be seen, the highest that had been reached for twenty years, till eclipsed by the still higher total of 1863. On looking, however, at the number of commitments for a first, second, and third time, and for a fourth, fifth, and sixth time, we come on the significant fact that the increase is in a very much smaller ratio among the less hardened classes of offenders, their proportion being little more than one-fifth. The increase is plainly due to the growing frequency of recommitments, which, as will be observed from the proceedings at the county meeting on Wednesday, is forcing itself on the attention of prison authorities, not only here, but in other parts of the country.

"The following table of very young committals, and of committals for theft, the offence under which we may expect to find the bulk of juvenile offenders, throws additional light on this point. To appreciate the full force of the two columns referring to juveniles exclusively, it is necessary to remember that with the year 1854 apprehensions for begging began. Making the necessary allowance for this, and for the greater efficiency of the county police, the reduction in the amount of juvenile crime appears to have been pretty steady over the whole period:—

Committals.

Year.	Age, 12 and Under.	Average to Nearest Unit.	Age, 12 to 16.	Average to Nearest Unit.	Total of all Ages for Theft.	Average to Nearest Unit.
1843	53	} 40	74	} 102	330	} 326
'44	41		94		275	
'45	49		101		320	
'46	28		114		322	
'47	27		128		381	
1848	19	} 18	136	} 115	352	} 325
'49	16		125		297	
'50	22		115		325	
'51	8		90		318	
'52	24		110		333	
1853	25	} 39	141	} 123	349	} 315
'54	49		142		342	
'55	37		151		319	
'56	43		104		282	
'57	40		76		283	
1858	15	} 21	83	} 61	244	} 260
'59	23		64		262	
'60	13		60		243	
'61	—		No return		—	
'62	27		50		270	
'63	27		47		282	

“ The special increase in the number of juvenile cases caused in the city by the raid against begging, which began with 1854 and has continued during subsequent years, is still more clearly brought out by the following return : —

Boys under 15 Apprehended and Convicted in the City of Aberdeen.

Year.	Apprehended.	Convicted.	Year.	Apprehended.	Convicted.
1844.....	60	44	1854.....	103	90
'45.....	112	94	'55.....	126	75
1846.....	110	77	1856.....	90	46
'47.....	76	69	'57.....	91	47
'48.....	62	57	'58.....	71	34
'49.....	67	48	'59.....	50	31
'50.....	48	37	'60.....	50	38
1851.....	31	27	1861.....	50	25
'52.....	89	52	'62.....	71	42
'53.....	69	65	'63.....	66	38

“ That the increase among these classes is only apparent may be gathered from the following return, which furnishes a still clearer index to the real state of the case :—

Offences Charged against Persons Committed.

Year.	Assault.	Theft by House-breaking, &c.	Theft.	Fraud.	Malicious Mischief.	Breach of Peace.	Game Law Offences.	Public House Act.	Aberdeen Police Act.
1843	134	21	330	18	24	79	6	—	10
'44	143	32	275	30	28	89	10	—	6
'45	167	23	320	12	21	95	1	—	1
1846	135	22	322	10	14	98	2	—	1
'47	151	24	381	17	17	136	5	—	3
'48	111	8	352	13	33	144	3	—	2
'49	196	15	297	45	29	350	4	—	1
'50	189	21	325	37	41	241	9	—	7
1851	171	9	318	22	26	160	5	—	6
'52	125	24	333	13	26	111	15	—	5
'53	170	12	349	22	23	145	9	—	3
'54	138	21	342	10	24	135	12	4	3
'55	121	21	319	14	20	265	19	3	3
1856	101	11	282	17	24	190	10	—	3
'57	107	23	283	21	14	267	4	—	19
'58	133	14	244	21	12	355	8	—	32
'59	124	4	262	20	17	389	8	1	2
'60	102	8	243	19	8	330	16	—	3
1861				No	return.				
'62	122	17	270	22	20	262	7	104	182
'63	121	15	282	17	16	293	21	123	243

“ In these two last columns we have at a glance the explanation of the large totals reached in 1862 and 1863. Forbes Mackenzie and the new besom of the Aberdeen Police Act have done it. Observe, too, that the commitments under these two heads will necessarily be almost wholly included in the above lists of the less insured criminals. Making allowance for this, it is easy to see that the proportion of crime to be assigned during these latter years to be regular *habitues* of our prisons must be considerably larger than the return of commitments, without this explanation, might be held to prove. There is, it will be observed, an apparent increase over the twenty years in the number of breaches of the peace; but the increase is not actual. It is due entirely to the superior efficiency of our police establishments. In 1845, the whole county force numbered twenty-four men; now it numbers seventy-one, ably superintended. Formerly the county constables could not pretend to deal effectually even with the professional thieves and masterful beggars; now they are practically ubiquitous, and nothing worth mentioning escapes them. The extent to which the increase in the number of commitments consists of trifling cases is conclusively brought out by the following statement:—

*Average Duration of Imprisonment of each Individual, entered to
Nearest Unit.*

Year.	Period of Imprisonment.	Year.	Period of Imprisonment.
1850	50 days	1857	31 days
'51	44 "	'58	28 "
'52	48 "	'59	33 "
'53	45 "	'60	30 "
'54	40 "	'61	24 "
'55	36 "	'62	20 "
'56	36 "	'63	18 "

"The reduction, it will be seen, has been steady during the past fourteen years; showing that the increase in the number of committals has been due not to increase in the amount of crime, but to increase in the vigilance and efficiency of the police, who now manage to make a clean sweep of the crime of the county. The meshes of the police net, in short, have been reduced; and minor criminals who would formerly have been allowed to escape are now duly landed in the cells. This increased efficiency is incidentally brought out by the following figures which refer exclusively to the county:—

Year ending March	Property Reported Stolen, and Property Recovered.		Offences Reported and Cases Undiscovered.		
	Reported Stolen.	Recovered.	Offences Reported.	Persons Implicated.	Undiscovered or Absconded.
1859.....	£ s. d. 743 18 2	£ s. d. 217 19 —	1,026	1,031	295
'60.....	812 6 7	299 18 4	1,102	1,010	333
1861.....	1,191 9 2	182 18 1	981	949	333
'62.....	572 4 1	167 13 10	1,184	1,168	343
'63.....	570 18 5	219 2 10	1,034	1,076	303
'64.....	526 3 6	240 1 4	997	1,070	256

"During the first three of these years,* it will be observed, the amount of property reported stolen was 2,747*l.*; while during the second three years, it had decreased to 1,669*l.* The amount recovered during the first three years was about one-fourth; while the amount recovered during the second three years was considerably more than one-third. On the other hand, while the total number of persons implicated in reported offences has increased, the number of those who have been able to escape detection has diminished.

"But the most striking feature of our twenty years' experience, and that to which we would specially call the attention of gentlemen disposed to doubt whether the county has greatly benefited from the Industrial School system, is to be found by comparison of the following rows of figures, showing, on the hand, the number of county convictions of all ages, and, on the other, the number of vagrants found in the county of the class with which the Reformatory and the Industrial School profess to deal:—

* Where the returns extend over a less period than twenty years, the sole reason of the deficiency is, that we have been unable to lay hands on the figures in an available shape except for the years given.

Year.	Vagrants found in County and Reported by Police.						Convictions of all Ages.	
	Total.	Average to Nearest Unit.	Children with Adults.	Average to Nearest Unit.	Children Alone.	Average to Nearest Unit.	Annual Total.	Average to Nearest Unit.
1841....	2,459	2,247	328	318	27	55	113	185
'42....	2,103		272		57		198	
'43....	2,267		370		77		245	
'44....	2,161		302		60		183	
1845....	2,163	1,371	302	245	65	18	205	221
'46....	1,301		250		14		254	
'47....	1,129		211		6		216	
'48....	1,118		225		6		163	
'49....	1,145		239		1		267	
1850....	1,172	1,445	260	346	2	10	220	247
'51....	1,013		170		4		242	
'52....	1,204		258		8		277	
'53....	2,186		585		21		258	
'54....	1,649		456		17		239	
1855....	1,575	1,106	416	270	8	5	207	278
'56....	1,223		297		9		257	
'57....	946		199		1		260	
'58....	761		169		4		275	
'59....	1,026		271		3		390	
1860....	708	543	187	136	4	1	518	475
'61....	495		107		0		358	
'62....	807		198		1		605	
'63....	377		109		0		455	
'64....	326		77		0		440	

"Here, then, we find that what may with peculiar propriety be called our class of pupil criminals has practically been swept out of the county—that the growing ubiquity of the police, to which we must attribute the increase in the number of annual convictions for crime, has served effectually to remove from our highways and byeways that class of juveniles among whom our most thoroughbred and most abandoned criminals are naturally reared. The return for the last two years is *nil*. But for the Reformatory and Industrial Schools, how could this result have been attained? The saving to the county by the reform of one of these little marauders is, we need not say, something very much beyond the cost of his keep either in prison or in Reformatory. One night's plunder may cost a farmer or a laird more than a dozen years' assessment.

"But, then, the vagrancy returns are increasing; and what is the explanation of that fact? Its explanation will be found in the following table:—

Vagrants and Tinkers Reported in County.

Year ending March	Belonging to County.	To City and Suburbs.	Elsewhere in Scotland.	English.	Irish.	Gipsies or Tinkers, most of them Encamping.	Total.
1853.....	151	818	1,102	16	99	601	2,787
'54.....	118	597	841	18	75	830	2,479
'55.....	94	551	850	22	58	1,030	2,605
1856.....	90	457	618	9	49	866	2,089
'57.....	95	270	547	10	24	732	1,678
'58.....	73	218	430	11	29	821	1,582
'59.....	136	270	583	14	31	1,162	2,188
'60.....	42	113	519	8	26	1,348	2,056
1861.....	20	115	344	1	15	1,090	1,585
'62.....	50	127	590	16	24	1,873	2,680
'63.....	15	95	261	2	4	1,449	1,826
'64.....	16	47	249	6	8	2,336	2,662

"The enormous apparent increase in the number of gypsies or tinkers is due in no small measure to the increased vigilance of the police. The rule is, and has been, that every constable reports gypsies who pass through his beat, and from the increased number of beats the same camp of gypsies is now reported an increased number of times. Among the ordinary classes of vagrants the reduction is very marked. The city sent to the county, in 1853, seventeen vagrants for every one it sent last year; and the county had about nine vagrants of its own in the former year for every one it had in the latter.

"Having seen whence the vagrants come, it may be well to ascertain whence the criminals come:—

Where Prisoners have passed greater part of Life.

Year.	Town.	Country.	Elsewhere in Scotland.	England.	Ireland.	Foreign.	Total.
1845.....	421	126	113	23	67	1	751
1846.....	367	146	120	16	31	3	683
'47.....	461	157	146	9	15	12	800
'48.....	439	137	147	8	28	18	777
'49.....	549	170	190	30	45	27	1,011
'50.....	466	178	212	16	51	20	943
1851.....	358	167	209	13	33	20	800
'52.....	361	158	147	15	32	21	734
'53.....	410	167	155	21	39	18	810
'54.....	355	182	164	15	27	13	756
'55.....	478	202	192	16	24	18	930
1856.....	406	150	159	15	15	8	753
'57.....	436	169	153	30	20	12	820
'58.....	459	164	217	20	18	7	885
'56.....	483	193	176	20	27	11	910
'60.....	394	171	177	18	9	16	785
1861.....			No return				
'62.....	516	319	174	27	44	11	1,091
'63.....	519	286	271	25	61	27	1,189

"Deducting from the town return for 1862 the 286 committals for offences against the Public Houses and Aberdeen Police Acts, and from last year the 366 convictions under the same statutes, the city will be seen to stand more favourably than the county; but the increase in the county is entirely due to trifling cases of a class that in former times necessarily passed unnoticed.

"The following table shows that the increase of committals has taken place, in large measure, among those who are not educated, or but imperfectly so:—

Education of Prisoners.

Year.	Could Read.			Could Write.			Superior Education.
	None.	Little.	Well.	None.	Little.	Well.	
1843.....	85	433	212	317	311	102	12
'44.....	80	426	201	324	301	82	6
'45.....	108	441	195	351	284	109	7
1846.....	159	304	211	327	302	45	9
'47.....	193	325	272	413	330	47	10
'48.....	184	338	251	386	330	57	4
'49.....	222	479	308	537	440	32	2
'50.....	205	472	261	503	404	31	5
1851.....	174	435	189	424	353	21	2
'52.....	136	431	163	378	329	23	4
'53.....	190	420	196	422	356	28	4
'54.....	199	384	171	430	299	25	2
'55.....	238	460	230	511	401	16	2
1856.....	175	405	170	405	324	21	3
'57.....	153	465	202	460	330	30	4
'58.....	202	470	213	499	352	34	8
'59.....	178	519	213	485	394	31	6
'60.....	143	444	198	410	343	32	4
1861.....	No	return					
'62.....	197	762	132	501	531	58	6
'63.....	174	896	119	462	633	94	17

"Possibly, however, the very marked increase in the number of uneducated prisoners during the past two years may be in some measure attributable to the adoption by Mr. Rutledge of a rather higher test than was formerly used.

"The recent increase in our prison expenditure, referred to by Mr. Edmond, admits of an easy explanation. It is due to the same cause that has made a blank in the return for 1861—the illness of the late Governor of the Prison, and consequent wasteful confusion. The following are the figures for the past thirteen years:—

Year ending June	Aberdeen Prison.	Total of County Prisons.	Year ending June	Aberdeen Prison.	Total of County Prisons.
	£	£		£	£
1851	1,467	1,625	1858	1,357	1,531
'52	1,408	1,557	'59	1,399	1,573
'53	1,432	1,586	'60	1,378	1,554
'54	1,442	1,615	'61	1,352	1,500
'55	1,478	1,646	'62	1,411	1,590
'56	1,420	1,614	'63	1,339	1,513
'57	1,366	1,556			

"Last year, it will be observed, under the management of Mr. Rutledge, the cost of the prison was brought to a lower figure than it had reached during the past thirteen years, and, as is well known, very important additional savings are expected both this year and next.

"So far we have been merely looking at our own present position as compared with the past; but it is not uninteresting to know how the head-quarters of the Industrial School system may compare with other counties:—

Proportion of Criminals to Population in the Principal Counties of Scotland for the Past Year (1863).

Counties.	Population.	Average Daily Number in Prisons in County.	Number of Persons for each Prisoner in County.	Number of Prisons in County.
Aberdeen	211,569	57	3,887	4
Ayr	198,971	58	3,430	2
Edinburgh	273,997	364	752	2
Dumfries	75,878	27	2,810	1
Fife	154,770	29	5,336	2
Forfar	204,425	93	2,198	5
Lanark	631,566	360	1,127	4
Perth	133,500	62	2,153	3
Renfrew	177,561	96	1,849	3
Stirling	91,926	46	1,998	2

"Aberdeenshire, it will be observed, stands more favourably than any other important county, with the single exception of Fife, an agricultural district with no great centres of population.

"It is also satisfactory to know that the benefits of the Reformatory System appear to be felt all over the country. To this conclusion we are pointed by the following return:—

Average Daily Number of Criminal Prisoners in the several Prisons of Scotland.

	Yearly Average of Five Years ending 30th June, 1856.	Yearly Average of Five Years ending 30th June, 1861.	Years ending June		
			1861.	1862.	1863.
Total commitments	21,372	18,575	18,578	19,701	22,452
Under 16 years of age	1,887	1,244	1,212	1,120	1,075
Sentences to imprisonment for 10 days and under....	2,715	2,573	2,619	2,711	3,610

III.—*Statistics of Sunday Schools in Manchester and Salford.*

THE interesting tables subjoined, have been taken from the *Manchester Guardian*. It has been the custom lately for the Sunday Schools in and about Manchester, to meet and walk in procession on Whit-Monday,

The proprietors of the *Manchester Guardian* appear to have taken the opportunity which that event affords, to collect and publish, immediately after the holiday, what may be termed a concise census of those remarkable gatherings; especially remarkable, when we observe the variety of sects which then act in concert.

"The following are the statistics of a large proportion of the Sunday Schools, of all denominations, in Manchester and Salford. They include the particulars respecting 150 schools, but as last year 185 schools were represented in the list, which was then compiled for the first time, there is a large number of returns yet to come to hand. Under these circumstances we are compelled to postpone for one day our table of totals.

	Average Attendance.		Total Average Attendance.	Number of Teachers.	Volumes in Library.
	Boys.	Girls.			
<i>Church of England—</i>					
St. Mary's, Hulme	80	144	224	24	—
„ George's, „	300	400	700	48	900
All Souls, Every Street	200	180	380	30	—
St. Mark's, Grtn. Brook	—	—	417	25	250
German Street	298	313	611	72	1,300
St. Michael's, Hulme	303	274	577	52	300
„ Thomas's, Crumpsall.....	144	160	304	30	300
Albert Memorial, Collyhurst	164	136	300	30	—
St. Paul's, Paddington	200	200	387	32	300
„ James's, Birch	94	81	175	27	—
<i>Christ Church, Salford—</i>					
Hulme	220	230	450	60	750
Hope Street	180	175	355	50	800
„ Ragged School ..	70	100	170	22	—
„ Adult	—	—	70	4	—
St. Stephen's, Chorlton-on- }	—	—	405	26	—
Medlock	—	—	—	—	—
„ Paul's, Hulme	146	150	296	30	—
Christ Church, Pendlebury	247	230	477	38	—
St. Philip's, Hulme	350	300	650	50	1,600
„ John's, Pendlebury	80	80	160	20	—
„ Luke's, Chorlton-on-Medlock ..	100	115	215	24	—
„ Mark's, Hulme	150	160	310	37	—
Holy Trinity.....	140	205	345	32	420
St. Gabriel's, Hulme	—	—	100	—	—
„ Philip's, Salford	—	—	420	27	—
„ Luke's, Cheetham Hill	—	—	196	32	250
„ Margaret's, W. Range	102	129	231	25	650
26 Schools in the procession	—	—	13,773	—	—
<i>Independent—</i>					
Chorlton Road	170	130	300	32	—
Broughton	50	50	100	20	341
Zion Chapel	170	180	350	56	—
Bridge Street, Ancoats	55	52	107	12	380
Chapel Street, Salford.....	273	284	557	50	1,170
New Windsor, „	217	233	450	40	200
Pendleton	—	—	250	32	1,072
Longsight	90	100	190	24	950
Church Street	96	89	185	14	—

	Average Attendance.		Total Average Attendance.	Number of Teachers.	Volumes in Library.
	Boys.	Girls.			
<i>Independent—Contd.</i>					
Tipping Street, Ardwick.....	150	166	316	40	750
Cheetham Hill.....	68	58	126	23	322
Ashley Lane.....	165	162	327	36	850
Rusholme Road and Saville } Street.....	450	360	810	93	800
Every Street.....	132	127	259	28	442
Charlestown.....	205	179	384	30	380
Hope Chapel, Salford.....	430	450	880	67	1,800
Collyhurst Street, Odm. Road....	89	107	196	30	—
Richmond, Broughton Road	319	286	605	37	1,200
Roby Day and Sunday Schools	282	310	592	87	2,730
Cavendish Street.....	435	270	705	90	1,530
Knot Mill.....	350	250	310	31	750
Oldham Road.....	374	380	754	53	1,500
<i>Welsh Independent—</i>					
Booth Street East.....	42	59	101	14	—
<i>Wesleyan Methodist—</i>					
New Islington.....	—	—	190	37	600
Rydal Mount.....	90	86	176	19	360
Erskine Street.....	62	56	118	—	223
Higher Broughton.....	55	69	124	16	200
Broughton Road.....	130	170	300	27	550
Rusholme.....	73	58	131	13	659
Lady Barn.....	24	27	51	5	160
St. David (Welsh), Hardman } Street.....	79	48	127	20	—
Irwell Street, Salford.....	239	291	530	74	1,298
Brunswick, Pendleton.....	183	223	406	62	1,200
Queen Street, Hulme.....	240	160	400	33	1,120
Great Bridgewater Street.....	200	260	460	40	1,300
Clarence Street.....	99	105	204	35	350
Bank Meadow.....	180	234	414	50	700
Newton Heath.....	122	126	248	41	503
Gravel Lane, Salford.....	461	394	855	68	2,200
Oxford Road and Ormond Street	300	250	550	100	1,800
Ebenezer, Red Bank.....	120	151	271	34	850
Cheetham Hill, Rooden Lane, } and L. Crumpsall.....	—	—	317	—	900
Radnor Street.....	304	316	620	80	1,450
Ancoats.....	—	—	352	54	750
<i>United Methodists—</i>					
Mount Street.....	160	190	350	45	668
Oldfield Road.....	170	185	355	34	220
Reather Street, Oldham Road....	111	143	254	25	843
Hyde Road.....	—	—	534	48	—
Grosvenor Street.....	—	—	366	48	—
Hall Street, Greenheys.....	—	—	180	21	—
Beswick Street.....	—	—	210	29	—
Bradford.....	—	—	310	30	—
Openshaw.....	—	—	506	58	—
Great Jackson Street.....	—	—	210	24	—
Mount Street, Salford.....	—	—	482	47	—
Queen's Road, Collyhurst.....	—	—	240	22	—
Lever Street.....	117	79	196	46	1,260

	Average Attendance.		Total Average Attendance.	Number of Teachers.	Volumes in Library.
	Boys.	Girls.			
<i>Methodist New Connexion—</i>					
Salem.....	85	82	167	36	500
Bethesda	—	—	200	30	550
Ebenezer	85	52	137	22	650
<i>Primitive Methodist—</i>					
Collyhurst Street	56	60	116	17	—
Ogden Street	113	113	226	26	336
<i>Independent Methodists—</i>					
Salem, Pendleton.....	—	—	130	18	—
<i>Baptist—</i>					
Union Chapel, Oxford Road	120	110	230	35	500
Clowes Street	148	145	293	—	—
Grosvenor Street, C.-on-M.	150	200	550	60	—
Carpenters' Hall, Brook Street	120	80			
Great George Street, Salford	179	207	386	25	796
Wilmot Street	65	50	110	15	160
York Street	—	—	120	20	400
<i>Particular Baptist—</i>					
Rochdale Road.....	150	160	310	44	1,750
Higher Temple Street	85	95	180	20	300
<i>Presbyterian—</i>					
Bloomsbury	22	35	57	12	87
Trinity	55	91	146	25	474
Salford	80	77	157	17	200
<i>English Presbyterian—</i>					
Grosvenor Square	193	130	323	43	90
Mill Street, Ancoats.....	—	—	270	27	—
<i>United Presbyterian—</i>					
Coupland Street	140	160	300	40	800
Brunswick Street	73	61	—	26	1,000
<i>Unitarian—</i>					
Domestic Mission	70	60	130	25	206
Hulme Domestic Mission	75	67	142	23	150
Miles Platting	120	90	210	—	20
Dob Lane	106	80	186	—	1,200
Ford Street, Salford	—	—	70	10	—
Lower Mosley Street	240	199	439	50	1,600
<i>Roman Catholic—</i>					
St. Patrick's	620	600	1,220	84	500
„ Joseph's, Goulden Street	150	300	450	16	120
„ John's, Salford	400	600	1,000	74	1,010
„ Peter's, Greengate	140	180	320	24	—
„ Aloysius, Ogden Street	100	120	220	20	316
„ Wilfrid's, Hulme	586	966	1,552	50	498
„ Mary's.....	300	380	680	60	400

	Average Attendance.		Total Average Attendance.	Number of Teachers.	Volumes in Library.
	Boys.	Girls.			
<i>New Jerusalem—</i>					
Peter Street	64	88	152	30	1,031
<i>Bible Christian—</i>					
Christ Church, King Street, } Salford	57	64	87	18	—
Christ Church, Hulme.....	425	117	542	49	1,500
<i>All Denominations—</i>					
Elm Street, Oldham Road	—	—	430	60	1,100
Lever Street	115	150	265	51	1,600
<i>Ragged Schools—</i>					
Holland Street	—	—	270	39	300
Gun Street, Ancoats	—	—	200	20	—
<i>Boatman's Bethel—</i>					
Knot Mill.....	70	53	123	—	77

“ The following returns reached us too late to be included in yesterday's table :—

	Average Attendance.		Total Average Attendance.	Number of Teachers.	Volumes in Library.
	Boys.	Girls.			
<i>Church of England—</i>					
St. Simon and St. Jude	—	—	300	15	—
<i>Independent—</i>					
Park Chapel	—	—	180	27	460
Tatton Street	—	—	230	—	—
<i>Wesleyan—</i>					
London Road	—	—	369	66	1,500
George Street, Hulme.....	244	290	534	60	1,250
Longsight	101	130	231	27	285
<i>Independent Methodist—</i>					
Hanover Street	59	46	105	—	920
<i>United Methodist Free Church—</i>					
Cheetwood	—	—	100	14	—
<i>Unitarian—</i>					
Strangeways	120	70	190	25	750
<i>New Jerusalem Church—</i>					
Irwell Street, Salford	45	59	104	12	650

“ We subjoin a summary of the details given in our Sunday School table yesterday, with the addition of the returns given above. We very much regret that

in many instances no notice has been taken of our request to have particulars furnished to us. Our object has been to provide the statistics of the great Sabbath-school work in this locality as completely and accurately as possible. Such a return, if continued from year to year, would prove of considerable value, as well as of especial interest to all who are connected with Sunday Schools. The compilation of the table involves no little labour, and we should be glad to see a proof that it was appreciated by the conductor of every Sunday School in the two boroughs preparing on the Whit-sunday the necessary particulars. The schools included in our tables of yesterday and to-day are fewer in number by 22 than the number tabulated last year. The Church of England shows an increase (not actual, but in the number of returns sent to us) of three schools. The Independents return the same number as last year, and the Wesleyans two more. But assuming that the United Methodist Free Church has not greatly diminished in numbers, we can only conclude, as there are only 14 schools returned this year, against 17 last year, that 3 schools have neglected to inform us of their numerical condition. The Primitive Methodists have done even worse than the United Methodists; for, whereas last year they returned 11 schools, this year they appear only to have two. Other denominations have also failed to represent their entire strength in the same manner. The following are the totals referred to above:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.	Number of Teachers.	Volumes in Library.
1. Church of England	53	22,998	2,093	23,332
2. Independent	24	9,163	975	17,627
3. Wesleyan	24	7,978	1,002	20,208
4. United Methodist Free Church	14	4,293	491	2,991
5. Methodist New Connection	3	504	88	1,700
6. Primitive Methodist	2	342	43	336
7. Independent Methodist	2	235	28	920
8. Baptist	7	1,689	184	1,856
9. Particular Baptist	2	490	64	2,050
10. Presbyterian	3	360	54	761
11. English Presbyterian	2	593	70	90
12. United Presbyterian	2	434	66	1,800
13. Unitarian	7	1,367	172	3,926
14. Roman Catholic	7	5,442	328	2,844
15. New Jerusalem	2	256	42	1,681
16. Bible Christians	2	629	67	1,500
17. Welsh Independent	1	101	14	—
18. For all denominations	2	695	111	2,700
19. Ragged Schools	3	648	59	300
20. Boatman's Bethel	1	123	—	77
Grand Totals	163	58,340	5,951	76,699

IV.—The Russian Budget for 1864.

THE following comprehensive article upon Russian Finances, embodying the official statement of the Budget for 1864, is taken *in extenso* from the *Economist* of the 6th August:—

“It is not very long since we have had the means of reviewing the official statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Russian Government. The

Russian revolutionary organ in London first published the budget of 1860 in 1861, and the Russian Government very soon after determined to enter upon a course of financial publicity. That course was evidently to be an honest one as far as it lay in the power of the Minister of Finance, for the first budget officially published corresponded most accurately in its items with the figures surreptitiously obtained by the malcontent editor of the *Bell*. The identity thus established furnishes a strong argument in favour of the truthfulness of the statement, and commands a credence which might otherwise have been denied to the official document of a despotic Power.

"The budgets of Russia have subsequently been published every year with considerable improvements as to form and comprehensiveness. M. de Reutern, the present Minister of Finance, deserves, indeed, the highest credit for the manner in which he now submits to the public his prospective balance sheet for 1864. Whatever may have been his practical success as far as the management of the Russian finances is concerned, he may fairly claim the credit of having introduced a system of public accounts which must greatly simplify the task of imperial legislation. Until within the last two years, each department of the State accumulated and funded the balances of the sums allotted to it in the yearly budgets. Hence the Minister of War and the High Admiral, were almost irresponsible and uncontrolled in their expenditure. They had money at the bank which they could devote to any purpose they choose, and the country never got the benefit of any retrenchment that might have been made. This was evidently inconsistent with the general interests of imperial finance; and M. de Reutern, therefore, caused the several departments to pay their accumulated savings into the common fund at the State Bank, insisting at the same time on more careful and accurate estimates for the future. Since then, those squandering propensities, which engendered a fictitious appearance of prosperity, and attracted commercial and financial vultures to St. Petersburg, have been considerably reduced and circumscribed. The institution of the Council of the Empire, to which the budget is now submitted, has had a most beneficial effect in the direction of economy and control. Checked severally in their estimates and accounts, the ministers mutually exercise, so to say, the supervision of our own House of Commons over the statements of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Each minister is interested in reducing the demands of his colleagues in order that he may secure his proper share of available cash. Added to which the council is further composed of ex-ministers and expectant statesmen, who devote much energy to the examination of the public accounts. The council has deprived the Minister of Finance of much of his discretionary powers: his measures have to go through two or three sessions before they obtain the necessary sanction of the Emperor, and they are not unfrequently modified in that process. In consideration of these circumstances, we are led to believe in the truthfulness of the financial report for 1864, recently published in very great detail.

"It would appear from the budget before us that half the ordinary revenue of the empire is derived from indirect taxes, the excise on spirits alone amounting to 19,170,773*l*.* or about two millions more than the excise duties in the United Kingdom. The system of farming out the revenue from the sale of spirits having been abolished since 1862 and the price of the article reduced 50 per cent., the consumption of alcoholic liquors increased 25 per cent. in the year 1863, and is rapidly becoming greater.

"The Customs only bring in 5,350,770*l*. Stamps, licences to trade, a poll tax on the lower classes (all considerably raised during the last two years), increase the items of taxes, direct and indirect, to about 35½ millions sterling, collected at an expense of about 2½ millions.

"The State domains, consisting of lands held by peasants on copyhold leases, of forests, mines, and the railway from St. Petersburg to Moscow, yield a gross return of nearly 8 millions; the cost of administration being about a million and a-half.

* The rouble has throughout been converted at the rate of 36*d*.

"The miscellaneous receipts amount to $6\frac{1}{4}$ millions, amongst which we notice nearly half a million derived from the kingdom of Poland as a surplus of its revenue, and constituting, apparently, the contribution of that unfortunate country towards the expenditure of the empire. The country of the Transcaucasus, under the government of the Grand Duke Michael, is more favourably treated, its entire revenue, with the addition of about 26,000*l.*, being locally expended. The provinces and towns supply $3\frac{1}{4}$ millions towards the State expenses.

"Royalties appear for more than two millions, but the charges against them on the other side of the account reduce the income under this head to about 140,000*l.* This includes the post office and telegraph lines. The former inflicts a loss on the country of about 150,000*l.*; the latter merely pay for their management.

"The receipts from Government distilleries, from the sales of stores, &c., which figure for $1\frac{1}{4}$ million, and make up the total of the ordinary revenue (53,191,300*l.*) are exactly balanced by a corresponding charge for administration and production.

"We now come to the expenditure. The items are most plausibly marshalled, and defy all attempts at animadversion. The charges appear so moderate and so indispensable that it is difficult to say were economy could be introduced. The public debt is, after all, only an annual charge of about 9 millions, half of which is referable to foreign loans. The increase under this head since 1860 is about a million.

"The Council of State, the several committees which do the work of a parliament, the three sections of the Emperor's Chancery (of which the third, or secret police office, appears for 18,000*l.*), absorb 180,518*l.*

"The Church gets only 800,000*l.* from the State, of which nearly 600,000*l.* represent the pay of the clergy, augmented, of course by the voluntary contributions of the orthodox.

"Russian revolutionary writers attack chiefly the next item of expenditure,—that of the imperial household and civil list,—which figure for 1,163,316*l.* This charge includes grants to various benevolent institutions and to schools; the management, we believe, of theatres; expenses connected with the bestowal of decorations; and the maintenance of numerous palaces, leaving the sum of 74,250*l.* to be divided between the empress, the heir-apparent, and the younger children of their majesties. The private property of the imperial family is supposed to exceed that of any other reigning house. There is, consequently, a certain suppression of facts here which we cannot omit to notice. The budget does not include the revenue of the imperial appanages, which amounted even in 1859 to 539,973*l.*, out of which 240,845*l.* were paid that year to members of the imperial family. It is to be presumed that these resources are, at all events, not diminished at the present day. But even the addition of this sum to the charge on the budget does not appear an exorbitant grant to the house of Romanoff, composed as it is of so many members, each traditionally entitled to a palace and a court. Nor can the emperor be reproached with the number of palaces and establishments which he keeps up. The form of government which the Russian people still choose to have necessitates the setting up of imperial symbols over the country. Pomp, glitter, and glory are inseparable from the autocratic polity. A reduction of expenditure under this head has, however, been found possible, to the extent of 103,174*l.*, between 1860 and 1864. Indeed it is the only economy apparently introduced since the budgets have been published, all other State charges having steadily increased, owing either to special circumstances, such as the insurrection in Poland, or to the introduction of more accurate accounts.

"The diplomatic and consular services cost little more than 300,000*l.*—the extraordinary disbursements in foreign countries amounting to 32,000*l.* This charge is about 40,000*l.* less than our own Parliamentary grant for the same purpose for 1864-65.

"The army—estimated by the Russian press, in answer to M. Wolowski, at 800,000 effectives—involves a charge of 18 millions on the budget, or about 600,000*l.* more than the military forces of this country. We regret to notice an

increase of nearly 3,000,000*l.* under the head of army expenditure since 1860, irrespective of the extraordinary charges involved by the Polish outbreak, estimated in another part of the budget at nearly 5 millions sterling. The increased expenditure is attributable to the reforms introduced since the Crimean war, not to any augmentation of the forces. The depreciation of the currency, by raising prices, has also necessarily affected the navy estimates. The numerical effective strength of the Russian army, taken even at the highest valuation, will not appear excessive when we consider the vastness of the empire, the length of its frontiers, and the conditions on which Poland, the Caucasus, and other outlying dependencies are held. Garrisons will alone absorb a large proportion of the alleged strength of the army; and when we, moreover, bear in mind the sanitary condition of the Russian troops—the fact that every man passes through a military hospital every year—the Emperor of Russia may well be excused for preserving such an imposing martial array on paper.

“The navy will cost Russia 3½ millions this year, or about 56,000*l.* more than in 1860, shipbuilding appearing for about a million sterling. A further charge of 734,442*l.* is made on account of the Polish insurrection. The combined charges for the military and naval services, independently of the extraordinary war disbursements in Poland, amount to about 21½ millions, or about 7 millions less than this country annually votes for the same purposes. Of course, such a comparison is merely nominal, considering the relative value of money in the two countries. The proceeds of the excise on spirits almost exactly correspond with the charges for the Russian army and navy.

“About nine millions sterling are annually expended by the Minister of Finance in central and local administration; in pensions to widows, &c., 2,298,817*l.*; subventions to public companies, towns, &c., 824,606*l.*; and in the collection of the revenue, 2,826,033*l.* There are certain ‘extraordinary disbursements by the Treasury,’ under the head of ‘Finance Department,’ which we are unable to explain. They probably conceal some secret financial juggling not to be divulged to the public, although probably satisfactorily explained to the council.

“The Administration of the Domains of the State and the charges on them amount to 1,367,800*l.*, out of which a quarter of a million is paid to meritorious or favoured individuals in the service of the Crown. The salaries of the higher functionaries in all the branches of the imperial service are supplemented in certain cases by the grant of rents or ‘*arendas*,’ payable out of the State domains.

“The Home Office, with its numerous staff at the capital, and its provincial officers, absorbs about two millions sterling. There is a charge of 28,161*l.* for the censorship of the press.

“The State disbursements for public instruction fall a little short of a million, more than half of which is expended on universities, lyceums, and gymnasiums. The district, parochial, and primary schools are conducted at an expense of not quite 200,000*l.* The smallness of the expenditure under this head is almost a reproach to the country, for it cannot possibly suffice for the instruction of the children of 70 millions of inhabitants. The charge for education in such a country as Russia, with a vast population just emancipated and emerging into civil life, should be considered one of the most urgent items of State expenditure. A greater portion of the revenue should be devoted to purposes of civilisation, regardless of that revenue being thereby diminished. The ignorant and frequently besotted priests should be replaced by a qualified schoolmaster. If the interference of the State in matters of public instruction is so requisite here, where public and charity schools abound, how much more must it be needed in a country where private initiation has done next to nothing towards educating the masses? We may, however, congratulate the Russian Government on having increased this expenditure by 400,000*l.* since 1860.

“The administration of justice costs something short of a million, or a third more than in 1860. It is to be presumed that this expenditure will be considerably increased next year, when the great legal reform comes into operation, and vests the appointment of the judges in the Crown, instead of allowing them to be elected and paid, as at present, by the assemblies of the nobility.

"Public works necessarily require considerable appropriation of the revenue, and, being a productive expenditure, should not be grudged. As there is nothing Russia wants so much as railways in order to develop her riches, the increase of two millions sterling under the item of public works (provided they have been judiciously and honestly applied) is the best guarantee the Russian Government can offer of a prospective amelioration of their financial position.

"A few other items raise the total of the ordinary expenditure to nearly 53 millions, to which the minister adds an anticipated deficit in the collection of the taxes amounting to 600,000*l.*, and the expenditure of certain Government establishments to the extent of their productions, credited on the other side as revenue. The grand total of the ordinary expenditure of the Russian empire would thus have been 54,557,072*l.*, had not the disaffection in Poland necessitated an increase of the military and naval establishments, and an outlay of 5,607,147*l.*

"In short, the gross ordinary revenue of the Russian empire during the present year is estimated at 53,191,300*l.*, and its gross expenditure at 60,164,219*l.*, showing a deficit of 6,972,919*l.*, which is to be covered by an issue of exchequer bills to the extent of 2,700,000*l.*, and by 4,272,919*l.* of the recent Anglo-Dutch loan.

"The greater portion of the deficit is attributed to the extraordinary charges of the Polish insurrection, leaving only the sum of 1,365,772*l.* as the ordinary excess of expenditure over income. In the study of Russian budgets, nothing is more striking than the comparative immobility of the revenue of such a vast empire, and the regular recurrence of greater or less deficits. It is a most remarkable and significant fact that, from 1845 to 1857 the ordinary revenue of Russia always oscillated between 28½ millions and 34 millions, including the years of the Crimean war, while the recorded expenditure ranged during that period between 31 millions and 78 millions! The aggregate deficits during those years, amounting to the enormous sum of 163 millions sterling, were made up by the issues of bank notes and by loans, to which the present financial distress of the country is attributable.

"The figures for 1844, 1855, and 1856 tell more than words can express:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Deficit.
	£	£	£
1854.....	33,006,000	49,839,632	16,833,632
'55.....	31,029,000	67,086,611	36,057,611
'56.....	31,605,000	77,702,291	36,097,291

"A revenue of 50 millions sterling from such a wide-spread empire, which boasts of 70 millions of subjects, appears insignificant in the extreme; and yet, from its non-elasticity, we must argue that the burden is as great as the country can possibly bear. The fact probably is, that the smallness of the burden is more apparent than real, and that the people pay a considerable amount of taxation in the way of presents and bribes to officials. At the same time, the Imperial revenue defrays many expenses which in other countries are left to local resources. The taxation for local purposes, raised from the agricultural classes, has hitherto been about 4*d.* a-head; but about 2*s.* 3*d.* a-head in addition is paid by those classes in the shape of contributions in kind (horses, labour, and quartering of troops). The Imperial and local taxation on the male, rural, taxable population is estimated in a Russian official report at 5*s.* a-head. The peasantry, moreover, complain loudly of the expense of their newly-bestowed self-government. They now elect and pay their own judges, parish clerks, and other officers, and maintain their own poor, besides expending considerable sums in corn brandy for the purpose of influencing the more venal members of their communal assemblies.

"It seems, therefore, a hopeless task to balance a Russian budget, even on paper, and the undertaking would be still more arduous in reality, were it not for

an institution known as the State Bank. To it the Minister of Finance resorts in his extremities, appropriating with a high hand the savings of the nation to the pressing necessities of the exchequer. The practice of issuing bank notes *ad libitum* we sincerely believe to have been abandoned, although a re-issue of a certain amount of notes exchanged at the bank for specie, with the ostensible object of reducing the superabundant paper currency, is known to have been made for some time before the specie payments were again suspended last year. Public deposits at the bank, to the extent of about 27 millions sterling, placed there at the rate of 2 and 3 per cent., have irrecoverably gone to fill up avowed and unavowed gaps in previous budgets. About a hundred millions sterling in credit notes are now represented by only ten millions in specie. The Government has, moreover, considerable liabilities, alleged to be secured on real property, quite irrespective of foreign and internal loans.

"It is not a matter of surprise that, considering all these circumstances, M. Wolowski should have drawn such a dismal picture of Russian solvency, and incurred the reproachful insinuation of Polish proclivities. The difficulties, indeed, appear for the present inextricable. The taxation of the country is evidently incapable of any immediate or sufficient expansion, except, perhaps, in the direction of classes of society equally amenable to the payment of direct taxes, now almost exclusively raised from the labouring and commercial population. Nor is it easier to suggest a reduction of the expenditure, which, if honestly stated (as we trust it is), does not in any way appear prodigal.

"When the great reforms which the present Emperor has initiated shall have borne their fruits; if the country, in consequence of productive outlays now being made, should be raised to a higher state of prosperity; if the Government, abandoning a fallacious and ruinous system of finance, permits the accumulation of capital at private banks throughout the country and the consequent introduction of the credit system of Western Europe; when it renounces the hope of keeping the paper rouble at par, and consolidates its inconvertible currency at a fixed depreciation, now amounting to 13 per cent.; when the Emperor Alexander shall have done all this, and when, above all, he shall have admitted the representatives of his heterogeneous people to a participation in government, his Majesty will then be justified in considering himself truly powerful and independent of the Western Powers. But, until then, every sincere and practical economist will advise the Russian Government to be careful of its credit in the money markets of Europe, to continue the fulfilment of its many obligations abroad with its present almost proverbial punctuality, and by no means to disturb still more by a crooked foreign policy the confidence of statesmen and capitalists, somewhat shaken by recent financial disclosures and controversies. Russia will certainly require credit for many a year to come, and can only have it on condition of political and financial good behaviour.

Budget of the Russian Empire for the Year 1864.

I. ORDINARY REVENUE.			
A. Taxes—	£	£	
Direct	6,809,915		
Indirect (Excise, 21,335,300 <i>l.</i> ;* Customs, 5,350,770 <i>l.</i>)	26,686,070		
Duties, stamps, &c.....	1,997,847		
			35,493,832
B. Royalties—			
Mines	375,162		
Mint	375,976		
Post office	1,155,595		
Telegraphs	294,733		
			2,201,466

* Spirits, 19,170,773*l.*

C. State domains and property—	£	£
Rents from Crown lands held by peasants	4,445,131	
Railway, Moscow to St. Petersburg.....	1,437,058	
Forests.....	515,516	
Miscellaneous (lands, mines, &c.)	1,587,015	
	<hr/>	7,984,720
D. Miscellaneous receipts—		
Repayment of loans made by Government.....	699,826	
Contributions to Treasury by Town Corporations } State charges on provinces, &c.	3,230,327	
Surplus of revenue of the Kingdom of Poland.....	472,500	
Revenue of the Transcaucasus.....	518,046	
Miscellaneous (produce of schools of agriculture, } printing, fines, &c.)	1,335,555	
	<hr/>	6,256,254
E. Receipts from Government establishments, &c.—		
Sale of spirits at Government distilleries	132,450	
„ forage, stores	254,651	
Reimbursement of divers expenses	663,067	
Miscellaneous	204,860	
	<hr/>	1,255,028
Total ordinary revenue	—	53,191,300

II. EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

A. Exchequer bills.....	2,700,000	
B. Anglo-Dutch loan, 1864	4,272,919	
	<hr/>	6,972,919
Total gross revenue	—	60,164,219

I. ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

A. Public debt—		
Extinction and interest of foreign loans	4,633,420	
„ internal „	4,312,249	
	<hr/>	8,945,669
B. Expenses of Superior State Department	—	180,518
C. Church (pay of clergy, 599,178 <i>l.</i>)	—	801,291
D. Imperial household and civil list	—	1,163,316
E. Foreign Office, diplomatic and consular service	—	314,109
F. Army—		
Pay	3,279,894	
Rations	4,360,346	
Forage	2,218,123	
Clothing	1,987,173	
Miscellaneous	6,147,069 (P)	
	<hr/>	17,992,605
G. Navy—		
Pay	273,994	
Victualling	89,937	
Clothing	94,532	
Shipbuilding	960,919	
Miscellaneous	1,833,268	
	<hr/>	3,252,650

	£	£
H. Finance Department—		
Pensions to widows, orphans, &c.	2,298,817	
Subventions to companies, towns, &c.	824,406	
Construction of factories for casting guns	117,300	
Compensations : to Denmark for Sound Dues, to } Poland for abolition of custom houses; &c. ... }	630,415	
Extraordinary disbursements of treasury	600,000	
" " in provinces	551,848	
Central and local administration of finance	657,858	
Miscellaneous	<u>260,353</u>	
	5,940,997	
Expenses of collecting revenue—		
Direct taxes.....	32,522	
Excise on spirits.....	1,385,669	
" tobacco, salt, and sugar	218,962	
Customs	706,555	
Duties, stamps, &c.	22,914	
Mint, mine inspection, &c.	<u>459,412</u>	
	2,826,033	
		8,767,030
I. Department of Domains—		
Central and local administration	543,087	
Grants of rents to servants of the Crown	251,580	
Forests, farms, surveys, &c.	<u>573,213</u>	
		1,367,880
J. Committee of Southern Colonies	—	26,902
K. Home Office—		
Central administration	89,068	
Censorship of press	28,161	
Provincial administration	1,069,813	
Maintenance of clergy of foreign persuasions	102,404	
Divers	<u>529,384</u>	
		1,818,835
L. Public instruction—		
Central and district administration	58,597	
Universities, lyceums, and gymnasia	563,164	
District, parochial, primary, and other schools	194,070	
Grants, aid to professors, printing, &c.	<u>120,772</u>	
		936,603
M. Public works—		
Central and local administration	495,575	
Water communication	338,984	
Roads	556,746	
Telegraphs	49,240	
Buildings	201,673	
Guarantees to railway companies	975,000	
Working of line, St. Petersburg to Moscow	845,750	
" and extension of telegraphs	294,733	
Expense of levying tolls, &c.	<u>16,515</u>	
		3,774,416
N. Post Office, including postal stations, horses, &c.....	—	1,706,150

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O. Justice—

Senate and central administration	196,232	
Provincial and district courts, magistrates	644,831	
Law college and divers	132,387	973,450

P. Comptroller of Empire, central administration — 48,938

Q. Imperial studs

R. Civil administration of Transcaucasus — 542,457

Total ordinary expenditure — 52,702,044

Anticipated deficit in collection of taxes..... 600,000

Expenditure for Government establishments 1,255,028

1,855,028

II. EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF
POLISH INSURRECTION.

Army 4,872,705

Navy 734,442

5,607,147

Total expenditure — 60,164,219

V.—*Disease in the Army.*

THE subjoined return has been laid before the House of Commons by the Secretary of State for War. The record extends over the year ended with December last; it takes account of all the soldiers quartered in the United Kingdom, amounting, on the average, to 78,044 of all arms. The sickness-rates, as shown in this table, are important standards of comparison for similar statistics to be gathered when the "Contagious Diseases Prevention Act, 1864," shall have had sufficient time to come into full and effective operation.

Corps.	Average Number of Soldiers Quartered in the United Kingdom; Year ended 31st December, 1863.		Total Number of Days' Absence from Duty on account of Illness during 1863.				Percentage of Soldiers Absent from Duty on account of Illness during 1863.			
			Ordinary Illness.		Particular Illness.		Ordinary Illness.		Particular Illness.	
	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.
Cavalry	1,547	10,040	7,891	101,682	636	81,564	1'40	2'77	·11	2'23
Artillery	3,155	12,931	10,220	138,475	229	98,225	·89	2'93	·02	2'08
Engineers	561	1,770	1,257	15,923	—	13,301	·61	2'47	—	2'06
Military Train	193	1,268	615	11,134	—	12,283	·87	2'41	—	2'65
Foot Guards	483	3,827	2,386	47,263	476	38,061	1'32	3'38	·27	2'72
Infantry of the Line	4,610	36,686	18,311	396,348	970	247,833	1'09	2'96	·06	1'85
Army Hospital Corps	267	352	881	2,858	115	610	·90	2'22	·12	·48
Commissariat Staff } Corps	59	295	187	1,712	112	2,923	·87	1'59	·52	2'71
Total	10,875	67,169	41,698	715,395	2,538	494,800	1'05	2'92	·06	2'02